REPLACEMENT PARAGRAPH BRIDGING PAGES 13 AND 14

Feeder 1 and the feed conveyor station 3 are further provided with special tooling at the downstream discharge end thereof, which is shown in more detail in FIG. 4. Said tooling is a selecting device that comprises an actuated vacuum element 33 like a suction cup, which is able to effect a sucking force. In FIG. 4, there is shown one vacuum element 33 in full lines, and additional vacuum element 33 in dotted lines to indicate, that there may be employed more than just one vacuum element 33. The vacuum element 33 is fixed on a pick-up arm 32. In addition to the suction cups, there may also be arranged one or more perforated vacuum retaining plates 31, which may extend across the width of feed conveyor station 3 and in parallel to the first direction 11. Vacuum retaining plates 31 offer openings 37 to enable vacuum cups 33 to contact the underside of the leading edge 20 of the foremost signature when in their uppermost position. The pick-up arm 32 is pivotable, as it is indicated by respective arrows in FIGS. 1 and 4. The pick-up arm 32 may also be designed to be laterally adjustable, so that it can be easily adapted towards different measures of signatures 2.